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SUMMARY NOTES FROM ANNUAL CAP MEETING September 9, 1992

Representatives from the American Wood Preservers Institute (AWPI) met with members of the Wood Preservative Team on Wednesday, September 9, 1992. The purpose of this meeting was to review the results of the annual compliance survey and to hear and comment on AWPI's proposal for an expanded Consumer Awareness Program (CAP).

The CAP is a voluntary program administered by AWPI. It was initiated in 1986 following the Final Determination for the Wood Preserving Chemicals. The CAP is designed to inform the public, through the availability and use of the EPA approved Consumer Information Sheets (CIS), of the safety precautions that should be followed when handling, using and disposing of treated wood.

Members of the Wood Preservative Team expressed concern about the decline in the rate of participation and awareness of the CAP by wholesalers and retailers since 1990. Consequently, the team was very interested in learning how AWPI planned to address the problem this year and in the future. In light of falling participation and awareness as indicated by the 1992 survey, AWPI unveiled a comprehensive program designed to raise consumer awareness of the uses, safe handling and disposal of treated wood.

In addition to continuing the annual compliance survey and making the CIS more attractive, AWPI indicated that it would, among other things, start a program to reach consumers through the use of a national publication, News USA. Camera-ready news articles would be printed periodically and would provide information about treated wood and advise consumers on where they could get CIS's and further information. Also, consumer research efforts and public opinion polls would be used to gather consumer ideas about treated wood. Results from these initiatives would be used to improve the CAP. In addition, outreach programs to user groups, trade unions and County Agricultural Extension Agents would be initiated in the 1992 expanded CAP. AWPI expressed its commitment to fulfilling the spirit and letter of the CAP but declined to give a specific date on which the entire program would be fully operational. However, AWPI did say that some aspects of the program were already underway.

The EPA Wood Preservative Team will meet shortly to discuss the 1992 survey, AWPI's plan for the expanded CAP and make recommendations for future initiatives.

Attendees

Jeff Bull, AWPI
Victor Lindenheim, AWPI
David Stangel
Jerry R. Harke, AWPI
Richard Smith, News USA, AWPI
Richard Dannenbery, AWPI

Addressees

Ann Clevenger
Denise Greenway
Paul Mastradone
Barbara Pace
Ron Stanley
Harry Day
Sidney Jackson
David Stangel
Harry Craven

cc: Jackie McQueen

Larry Ebner, AWPI
Dennis Corrigan, AWPI
Denise Greenway
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